TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 3, 2005 LB 53

painful process. I feel sorry for those who are waiting for an offender to be properly punished. I gave that up a long time ago. That's not what this is about. This is about the rights that should be there after the court is completed. I would yield the rest of my time to Senator Brown.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Senator Brown.

Thank you, Mr. President, members. SENATOR BROWN: convert on this issue. I voted against it a couple of years in committee, and had great reservations about the time line that Senator Friend spoke about. I am now fully in support of what Because it's not about voting, it's not about we're doing. voter turnout; it's about that voting is a right. And at what point do we say that this...that we've ended punishment, and assume that people are going to be responsible members of society? The members who do vote are much less likely to they have taken the responsibility to because reoffend, participate in society. I think we need to move forward with this bill. I think we compromised to put in the two years so that people would not reoffend...would have the opportunity to find out whether they're going to reoffend. And the individuals who take the...take advantage of the right to vote are the ones...the former group that Senator Foley talked about, not the latter group, I believe. And I would yield the rest of my time back to Senator Kruse.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Senator Kruse, you have two minutes and seven seconds left.

SENATOR KRUSE: I will yield to Senator Johnson.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Senator Kruse. I won't talk very long. But one of the things that dawned on me as I was sitting here, you know, all of us, Senator Foley, are in agreement with you, and are disturbed when we hear of these awful cases where there has been motor vehicle homicide with the drunk driver, and then, for whatever reason, they either spend no time, very little time, get out, do the same